

APPENDIX A

SUITABILITY EVALUATION REPORTS

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Introduction

Appendix A – Suitability Evaluation Reports (SERs) presents a detailed river narrative for each river segment. This detailed river narrative is a synopsis of the pertinent information related to eligibility, classification, and suitability of a specific river.

Description of Information Found in SERs

The details for determining which suitability factors and other information to examine came from a combination of the example found in the FSH 1909.12, Sec. 84.11 – Exhibit 01 and the factors listed on page 17 of The Wild and Scenic River Study Process (Interagency Wild and Scenic Rivers Coordinating Council 1999). Factors were combined, where it made sense. Each Suitability Evaluation Report (SER) displays a summary of the study area, a description of eligibility and classification, and a suitability report that describes six Suitability Factors. This section explains the information and factors considered by the interdisciplinary team for each SER.

The **Study Area Summary** section provides the location and description of the river or river segment. It includes the following information: name of river; river mileage (with the entire miles of river studied and portion found to be eligible indicated); the location of the river; a map of the river segment; and a physical description of the river.

The **Eligibility** section summarizes the results of forest eligibility findings (report). It includes the following: name and date of eligibility document; determination of free-flowing condition; and a summary of outstandingly remarkable values (ORV).

The **Classification** section details the inventoried classification. It includes the basis for the classification of the river as Wild, Scenic, and/or Recreational.

The **Suitability Report** section provides an objective description of attributes of the river corridor and a subjective evaluation of “suitability factors.” This section includes landownership and land uses, mineral and energy resource activities; water resources development; transportation, facilities, and other developments; grazing activities; recreation activities; other resource activities; special designations; socio-economic environment; and current administration and funding needs if designated.

The **Suitability Factor Assessment** section describes the suitability factor assessment; i.e., a description of the characteristics that do or do not make the river a worthy addition for recommendation to the National System:

- (1) The extent to which the State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including costs, should it be proposed for inclusion in the National System.
- (2) The state/local government’s ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any local zoning and/or land use controls that appear to conflict with protection of river values.
- (3) Support or opposition to designation.
- (4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.
- (5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.
- (6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.